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Exemption 109

60-658/A

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13 FEB 1960

Colonel J. I. Coffey
Office of the Special Assistant
to the President for Security
Operations Coordination
The White House
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Colonel Coffey:

This refers to your memorandum requesting my views with respect to the scope and method of the Committee on Information Activities Abroad, and also to my conversation with Mr. Sprague and Mr. Nielsen on February 4th. I am attaching a memorandum suggesting what appears to me to be an appropriate order of procedure for the Committee which generally follows the main lines of the Jackson Committee's Report in 1953. The Committee will undoubtedly wish to review the specific recommendations of the Jackson Report with a view to determining what has been done to carry them out as well as to assess the validity of its findings and conclusions in the light of present conditions. It also seems to me to be consistent with the President's purpose for the Committee to formulate proposals for changes in the scope and emphasis of the present program as recommendations for new activities calculated to implement United States policy objectives.

The Jackson Committee addressed itself to a number of organizational problems which have subsequently been resolved. It is for this reason, I presume, that the matters dealt with in Chapter 7 of the June 30, 1953 report have been excluded from the present review. Moreover, as the Jackson Committee's concern with quasi-military operations such as coastal raiding

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and guerrilla warfare was primarily for the purpose of determining jurisdictional responsibility for the conduct of these activities, we have not suggested that the scope of the present Committee's investigation should include a review of these activities at this time. We will, however, be glad to inform Mr. Sprague generally of the status of operations of this nature if he desires.

I have also not suggested economic activities as a subject to be included within the scope of the Committee's deliberations. Although U.S. programs in the field of foreign economic aid and assistance obviously include international aspects and contribute over-all to the image and prestige of the United States abroad, the size and complexity of these programs would seem to extend the scope of the present review to unmanageable limits. Here again, however, Mr. Sprague will probably wish to make some independent investigation of the problem before deciding what to do.

As regards its method of approach, the Committee will obviously wish to consider the international programs and related activities of agencies of the Government, as well as of unofficial organizations, in the way best calculated to assess their interrelationship and the over-all impact and effectiveness of these programs as a whole.

We are reviewing the various programs for which this Agency is responsible with a view to identifying those which would be of interest to Mr. Sprague's Committee. I suggest that we discuss the results of this review with Mr. Sprague or Mr. Nielsen in the near future.

In its consideration of the present world situation and the objectives and capabilities of the Soviet bloc, as well as of other comparable matters, the Committee will probably wish to draw

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upon existing intelligence estimates and may wish to receive current intelligence briefings. If so, I shall be very glad to see that the Committee receives the appropriate estimates and such briefings and other general assistance as may be of value.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

Attachment:

As stated

DDP/SPO/[]:bcd
10 February 1960

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MEMORANDUM

**SUGGESTED ORDER OF PROCEDURE FOR
THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE
ON INFORMATION ACTIVITIES ABROAD**

- I. The Nature of the Conflict**
 - A. Changes in the world situation since 1953**
 - B. The U.S. image abroad**
 - C. The Soviet image abroad**
 - D. Principal factors contributing to these images**
 - E. Interrelationships of policy, action and information programs**
 - F. Probable future developments**
- II. The Communist Drive for World Domination**
 - A. Principal Soviet strengths and vulnerabilities**
 - B. Main lines of Soviet effort**
- III. United States Objectives**

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IV. United States Information Programs

A. Definition*

B. Operations against the Sino-Soviet system

C. Free World and "uncommitted" areas

D. Respective objectives, tactics, priority targets, scale of effort

V. Summary of Other Friendly Information Programs

VI. Communist Information Programs

A. Objectives

B. Priority targets

C. Tactics (including the roles of the Soviet Union, Communist China, the Satellites, local Communist operations, front organizations)

D. Scale of effort

VII. Relative Effectiveness of U.S. (and Allied) Information Programs and Communist Programs

*U.S. information programs are understood to include activities - official and unofficial, overt and covert - undertaken to influence foreign opinion (a) in favor of U.S. objectives or (b) against the objectives of those opposing the U.S. These include radio; TV; publications; news services; libraries abroad; foreign student leader training; cultural activities; East-West exchanges and contacts; "political action"; "political warfare"; support of émigré groups and activities; influencing of opinion makers; influencing of organizations; and the like.

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VIII. Conclusions

IX. Recommendations

In conducting this study, it is suggested that the Committee review the pertinent activities of the following:

Official Agencies

United States Information Agency

Department of State

International Education Exchange Service

The Bureau of International Cultural Relations

(including the East-West Contacts Staff)

International Cooperation Administration

(media and training programs)

United Nations Affairs and Affiliated Organizations

(including FAO, ILO, UNESCO)

Central Intelligence Agency

Department of Defense

Other - Commerce, Agriculture, Labor

Private Organizations

Selected foundations, educational institutions, international organizations and media

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